

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 10571 241244Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /057 W  
-----074317 241401Z /43

R 241205Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6551  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T CAIRO 10571

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UR EG  
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN MILITARY REP AT FAHMY/GROMYKO MEETING

REF: CAIRO 9491 (NOTAL)

1. RELIABLE WESTERN DIPLOMATIC SOURCE INFORMED EMBOFF  
JUNE 23 THAT BRIGADIER TAHA AL-SHAFAT, PROCUREMENT OFFICIAL  
IN MINWAR GAMASY'S OFFICE, HAD ACCOMPANIED FAHMY TO MOSCOW  
IN CAPACITY OF "CONSULTANT" (RATHER THAN AS OFFICIAL MEMBER  
EGYPTIAN DELEGATION). SOURCE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY SADAT  
CONFIDANT ASHRAF MARWAN ON JUNE 6, TWO DAYS PRIOR  
FAHMY DEPARTURE, THAT SHAFAT WOULD ACCOMPANY. AFTER  
VISIT, DMI SHAWKAT DENIED TO SOURCE THAT MINWAR HAD  
REP ON VISIT, BUT SHAFAT PERSONALLY CONFIRMED TO SOURCE  
HE HAD ATTENDED "SOME" OF CLOSED MEETINGS. SHAFAT  
ADDED THAT SOVIETS HAD AGREED RETURN MIG ENGINES HELD  
FOR MANY MONTHS IN USSR FOR OVERHAUL AND THAT SOVIETS  
HAD AGREED SELL EGYPT MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR HARD CURRENCY.  
(WE UNDERSTAND GOE ALSO TOLD VISITING ITALIAN MINSTATE  
THAT MIG ENGINES WILL BE RETURNED.)

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SHAFAT AGREED WITH SOURCE'S OBSERVATION THAT SAUDIS  
WOULD PAY NO SUCH COMMUNIST BILLS, BUT EXPRESSED VIEW  
THAT HARD CURRENCY FOR NEW SPARE PARTS CONTRACTS COULD  
BE SQUEEZED OUT OF GOE BUDGET. WE ARE RELIABLY INFORMED, HOWEVER,  
THAT PRESIDENT SADAT CONSIDERS HARD CURRENCY PAYMENT DEMAND IN  
EFFECT NULLIFIED SOVIER OFFER.

2. OFFICIAL DELEGATION LIST PUBLISHED IN CAIRO PRESS INCLUDED ONLY MEMBERS OF MFA (REF). ON JUNE 12, AFTER VISIT, EMBOFF HAD INQUIRED FROM TWO MEMBERS OF DELEGATION WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY MILITARY OR ECONOMIC REPS INCLUDED. THE ANSWER WAS UNEQUIVOCAL NO, PERHAPS JUSTIFIED IN INTERLOCUTERS' JUSGEMENT BY FACT THAT SHAFAT WAS ONLY "CONSULTATNT" TO DELEGATION.

3. COMMENT: INCLUSION MILITARY PROCUREMENT EXPERT IN MOSCOW PARTY IS WHAT WE HAD ORIGINALLY EXPECTED, AND IT THEREFORE CURIOUS THAT SHAFAT PRESENCE KEPT UNDER WRAPS. EXPLANATION MAY SIMPLY BE THAT MFA DID NOT EXPECT BREAK-THROUGH ON MILITARY SUPPLY QUESTIONS AND THUS DID NOT WISH GENERATE OPTIMISTIC SPECULATION.  
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, OVIP, UR, EG, (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH), (FAHMY, ISMAIL)  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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